



The Burden of Tobacco in Vilas County

Population 21,033

The Burden of Tobacco is a collaborative report of the Wisconsin Division of Public Health, the American Cancer Society, the University of Wisconsin Comprehensive Cancer Center, and the Wisconsin Tobacco Control Board

Smokers in Wisconsin and Vilas County

	Wisconsin		Vilas County	
	# of Smokers	Percent Smokers	# of Smokers	Percent Smokers
Total Number of Smokers	1,088,000		4,290	
Adult (18+) ^{1,2}	959,000	24%	3,840	23%
High School Youth ^{3,2}	107,000	33%	370	33% ⁺
Middle School Youth ^{4,2}	22,000	9%	80	9% ⁺
Smoking During Pregnancy ^{5,2}	11,000	16%	43	28%

Health Impact of Cigarette Smoking

	Wisconsin		Vilas County		
	Total Deaths	Due to Smoking	Average Annual Deaths	Due to Smoking	% Due to Smoking
Cause of Death^{6,7}					
Lung Cancer	2,655	2,150	21	17	81%
Other Tobacco-Related Cancers	1,546	580	9	3	29%
Heart Disease and Stroke	18,298	2,680	112	16	15%
Respiratory Disease	3,397	1,940	13	7	55%
Other Deaths Not Related To Smoking	20,509	0	106	0	0%
All Causes	46,405	7,350	261*	43*	17%

Years of Potential Life Lost

Cause of death ⁶	Wisconsin	Vilas County
Smoking-Related Cancers	41,000 years	280 years
Heart Disease	35,000 years	210 years
Respiratory disease	20,000 years	70 years
All Causes	96,000 years	560 years*

- In 2000, over 7,300 people died from smoking-related illnesses in Wisconsin. In Vilas County, approximately 43 residents die annually of smoking-related illnesses.^{6,7}
- Each year, approximately 17% of all deaths in Vilas County are attributable to smoking. Cigarette smoking causes 81% of all lung cancer deaths and 15% of all deaths from heart disease in Vilas County.^{6,7}
- In Wisconsin, approximately 96,000 years were lost from the potential lifespan of those who died of smoking-related illnesses in 2000. In Vilas County, approximately 560 years are lost annually from the effects of smoking.⁶
- Secondhand smoke is estimated to cause as many as 1,200 additional lung cancer and heart disease deaths in Wisconsin. Household fires in Wisconsin caused by cigarettes killed an estimated 20 people in 2000.^{8,9}

+ Statewide youth smoking prevalence estimates were used for county youth prevalence data

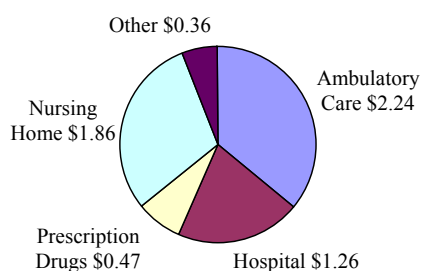
*Totals may not add up due to rounding

note: Wisconsin Health Impact and Years of Potential Life Lost data are based on 2000 Wisconsin mortality data. County Health Impact and Years of Potential Life Lost data are based on an annual average of 1996-2000 county mortality data.

Economic Impact of Cigarette Smoking in Wisconsin and Vilas County

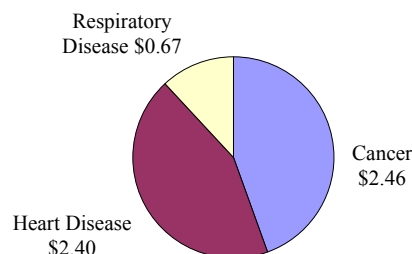
	Wisconsin	Vilas County
Health Care Costs ^{6,10}	\$1,580,000,000	\$6,200,000
Lost Productivity ⁶	\$1,400,000,000	\$5,490,000
Total Costs	\$2,980,000,000	\$11,690,000

Smoking Attributable Health Care Costs in Vilas County, 1998^{6,10}
(In millions of dollars)



Total: \$6.2 Million*

Cost of Productivity Lost Due to Smoking in Vilas County, 1998⁶
(In millions of dollars)



Total: \$5.5 Million*

- In 2000, there were over 426 million packs of cigarettes sold in Wisconsin. Residents of Vilas County spent approximately \$5.2 million on 1,670,000 packs of cigarettes in 2000.¹¹
- In 1998, an estimated \$1.6 billion in health care costs were paid in Wisconsin as a result of diseases caused by smoking, with \$6.2 million paid in Vilas County.^{6,10}
- In 1998, estimated health care costs of cigarette smoking were \$300 for every man, woman and child in Vilas County.^{6,10}
- Wisconsin lost \$1.4 billion, including \$5.5 million in Vilas County, in productivity costs because of illness and premature death from smoking-related illnesses.⁶

Technical notes:

This report estimates the burden of cigarette smoking using the most current version of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Smoking Attributable Mortality, Morbidity and Economic Costs (SAMMEC) software program. The analysis used combined 1996-2000 sex-specific current and former adult smoking prevalence estimates for those over 35 years old and previously published relative risk estimates for smoking-related diseases to calculate a smoking attributable fraction for 18 specific diseases. To obtain the number of smoking-related deaths in Wisconsin, the smoking attributable fraction was multiplied by Wisconsin's 2000 mortality data (persons 35 years and older for adult deaths). To obtain the number of smoking-related deaths in a county, the smoking attributable fraction was multiplied by the county's 1996-2000 mortality data (persons 35 years and older). County mortality data were divided by five to obtain an average annual number of overall deaths and deaths due to smoking.

The SAMMEC model calculates the economic costs of smoking using 1998 state health expenditure data provided by the Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services. To obtain county-specific economic cost data, state personal health expenditure and productivity data were both divided by the county population. Direct cost estimates include hospitalizations, outpatient care, physician and health professional services, prescription drugs, and nursing homes. Mortality-related productivity costs are the estimated costs of lost future earnings from paid market and unpaid household labor resulting from premature death due to smoking-related diseases. Finally, the SAMMEC model calculates years of potential life lost based on the potential life expectancy of those who died.

*Totals may not add up due to rounding